

From Financial Constraints to a Doctorate: How NFSC Support Empowered Vaishnavi's Academic Journey

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For scholars from financially constrained families, meeting the cost of advanced education can be difficult. Timely fellowship assistance can reduce this burden and allow scholars to pursue their academic ambitions with greater confidence and peace of mind.

Demonstrating the impact of support under the National Fellowship for Scheduled Caste Students (NFSC) Scheme, Vaishnavi, a 29-year-old scholar from Bengaluru, Karnataka, overcame financial constraints to complete her Ph.D. and earn a doctorate degree.

Before receiving assistance under the NFSC Scheme, Vaishnavi's primary challenge was financial. Although she did not face educational, social, geographical, accessibility-related or occupational barriers, it was difficult for her family to pay the fees required for her higher education.

Despite the financial pressure, Vaishnavi remained committed to her academic journey. She aspired to become a scientist in the agriculture field and contribute through research and professional work in the sector.

Vaishnavi began receiving assistance under the NFSC Scheme in March 2022 which included a fellowship, House Rent Allowance (HRA) and contingency assistance.

SUCCESS STORY

NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP FOR SCHEDULED CASTE STUDENTS (NFSC)

FROM FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS TO A DOCTORATE

VAISHNAVI'S ACADEMIC JOURNEY

 Age: 29

 Bengaluru, Karnataka





Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
समता और शक्ति Government of India



NFSC SUPPORT

- Fellowship • HRA • Contingency
- Assistance began: **March 2022**



VAISHNAVI
PhD Completed



CHALLENGES

Financial constraints made it difficult for her family to pay academic fees.



FELLOWSHIP SUPPORT

₹6 lakh support helped manage academic expenses and complete PhD research.



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Completed her PhD and earned a doctorate degree.



IMPACT

Greater financial stability, confidence and professional opportunity.

“ I availed financial support amounting to approximately ₹6 lakh under the Scheme that helped me to address the difficulty of meeting academic expenses and enabled her to continue pursuing her doctoral goals. **– VAISHNAVI** **”**

SUPPORTING EDUCATION. | ADVANCING RESEARCH. | EMPOWERING LIVES.

The fellowship provided Vaishnavi with financial stability during her Ph.D. journey. It reduced the pressure associated with paying fees and helped her remain focused on completing her research and academic requirements.

Beyond financial assistance, the support also strengthened her mentally. The assurance provided by the fellowship enabled her to pursue her doctorate with greater confidence and determination.

With the support received under the NFSC Scheme, Vaishnavi successfully completed her Ph.D. and earned her doctorate degree. This achievement marked an important milestone in her academic and professional journey.

Vaishnavi is currently employed as a contractual employee. She continues to work towards her long-term aspiration of becoming a scientist in the agriculture field.

The NFSC Scheme helped transform a financially difficult academic journey into one of achievement and progress. Although the assistance did not result in a reported change in income, it provided the essential support required to complete advanced education.

Vaishnavi's journey demonstrates how timely fellowship assistance can enable scholars to overcome financial constraints and pursue higher education without abandoning their professional aspirations.

Vaishnavi expressed her gratitude to the Central Government and said,

“I availed financial support amounting to approximately ₹6 lakh under the Scheme that helped me to address the difficulty of meeting academic expenses and enabled her to continue pursuing her doctoral goals.”

Through determination and support under the NFSC Scheme, Vaishnavi progressed from facing difficulty in paying her fees to successfully earning a doctorate degree. Her journey reflects the role of educational support in advancing research aspirations and strengthening professional opportunities.

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